

Jordan Times

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Queen visits Duke University

DURHAM, North Carolina (AP) — Her Majesty Queen Noor visited Duke University Sunday, on the first leg of her three-day visit to the State. "I'm here to try to learn more about the university and about the rest of North Carolina," said the Queen. Queen Noor was accompanied by several Jordanian officials, including Ibrahim Izzeddin, Jordan's ambassador to the United States. Queen Noor, who received a degree in architecture from Princeton University in 1974, planned to tour the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics Monday morning and speak about "Middle East Peace: A Common Victory" in the afternoon. Trinity College Associate Dean Albert Eldridge and several other Duke officials visited Jordan several months ago and invited the Queen to visit the area.

JD 30m agriculture project planned

AMMAN (J.T.) — A JD 30 million agricultural project is planned for execution by the Economic and Social Corporation of Retired Military Personnel, according to the corporation's director general Sami Anber. He told the Jordan Times that the project aims to meet 30 to 50 per cent of Jordan's food security requirement after five years. He explained that the project consists of an area of 200,000 dunums to be cultivated with wheat, corn, barley, potatoes and onions. He said that the first phase of the project consists of 86,000 dunums and will be executed in cooperation with an American firm. Mr. Anber said that French and American investors have expressed a genuine desire to finance the project. The project is situated at Al Hamad basin in Azraq near the Jordanian-Saudi borders and will include in its final stage a residential area, a clinic, a small hospital and other services in addition to a maintenance and training centre.

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Thursday declared national holiday

AMMAN (J.T.) — The government has declared Thursday, April 18, as a national holiday on the occasion of Al Isra'a Wal Mi'raj and a grand ceremony will be held under royal patronage on Wednesday, in addition to nationwide celebrations to mark the occasion, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said. It quoted a communiqué from the Prime Ministry as announcing Thursday as holiday and said the ceremony under royal patronage will be held at Raoudah Al Faiba mosque. Amman Governor Turki Al Hindawi issued an order meanwhile for all liquor shops, night clubs and bars to remain closed from 5 p.m. Wednesday to 9 a.m. Friday to mark the occasion, which commemorates the Prophet Mohammed's journey by night to Jerusalem and his ascension to and return from the heaven.

Cabinet approves policy statement

AMMAN (J.T.) — The cabinet discussed Monday evening its policy statement to be presented to parliament on Wednesday and approved it. The Lower House of Parliament, which will hold a special session to hear the statement, will take a vote of confidence on the cabinet after hearing the new government's programme and plan of action.

Thais back Ghali's bid to be UNHCR

BANGKOK (AP) — Thailand has agreed to support Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boutros Ghali's bid to become United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) at the next U.N. General Assembly, a Thai senior official said Monday. Poul Hartling of Denmark is the current high commissioner, based in Geneva, Switzerland. Dr. Ghali arrived in Thailand Saturday for a five-day visit.

Indian government charges 19 'spies'

NEW DELHI (AP) — The government on Monday formally charged 19 people, most of them government officials, with spying for foreign powers in India's biggest espionage scandal since independence. A government prosecutor filed in New Delhi's district court a 2,100-page charge sheet, which was supported by two large boxes of documents recovered during investigations. The charge sheet listed 188 witnesses and "confessional statements" of eight of the 19 accused, the United News of India news agency reported.

Top Soviet official to meet Kohl

HAMBURG (R) — Senior Kremlin official Mikhail Yimayrin arrived in Hamburg Monday to complete a visit cut short last month by the death of Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko. Mr. Yimayrin, heading a Soviet parliament delegation, will spend a week in West Germany, meeting Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher for talks in Bonn Tuesday.

Murphy leaves after talks on Feb. 11 accord

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
 Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near East affairs left Amman Monday for Tel Aviv after two days of talks with His Majesty King Hussein, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and other Jordanian officials on Middle East peace efforts.

King Hussein's talks with Mr. Murphy centred on Jordan's Feb. 11 agreement on joint political action with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to reach a settlement to the Palestinian question, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, quoted official sources as saying Sunday.

In the meeting, "the King pointed out the important role the superpowers can play in supporting the agreement in order to reach a comprehensive settlement to the region's conflict," Petra said.

Contacted by the Jordan Times, Jordanian and U.S. officials declined to give any details of Mr. Murphy's discussions.

Before the U.S. assistant secretary embarked on his Middle East tour, U.S. State Department officials said he would be exploring Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's call for a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to hold preliminary talks with the U.S. as a first step before negotiations with Israel.

The negotiations would be followed by an international Middle East peace conference under United Nations auspices to sanction any agreement reached, according to President Mubarak's initiative.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat was quoted Saturday as saying he

rejected the Egyptian proposal and insisted on the holding of an international conference with the participation of the five permanent members at the U.N. with the PLO taking part as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The U.S. and Israel persistently oppose an international conference or any Soviet participation in Middle East peace efforts. The U.S. also refuses to deal with the PLO before it explicitly recognises Israel's right to exist.

Reports from Washington last week indicated that during his tour in the Middle East, which will also take him to Cairo and Damascus, Mr. Murphy would be meeting with Palestinian personalities who are not members of the PLO.

A senior aide to Mr. Arafat said in Amman Monday that the U.S. official did not seek to meet with any Palestinian personality during his stay here.

Najib Al Ahmad, chief of Mr. Arafat's office in Amman, told the Jordan Times: "There was no meeting set with Mr. Murphy in the first place... all this is from some people's imagination."

He said the PLO "has agreed with Jordan not to hold direct negotiations with Israel until the PLO is recognised by the U.S. as the sole representative of the Pal-

estinian people." The PLO official pointed out that "no Palestinian will agree to take part in any negotiations without the consent of the PLO." He said that Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij has announced he would not take part in any delegation without the PLO's endorsement.

There were unconfirmed reports that Mr. Murphy was presented with a list of names of possible Palestinian delegates to a meeting with U.S. officials.

During his stay in Amman, Mr. Murphy was also received by Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri and Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker.

King receives U.S. Senator

Later on Monday, King Hussein received U.S. Senator Daniel Evans and reviewed with him Jordan's stand vis-a-vis the latest developments in the region.

Petra said the King emphasised the Feb. 11 Jordan-PLO agreement as the basis for a solution.

Mr. Evans, a Democrat from Washington state and a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, was also received by Mr. Masri and Gen. Sharif Zaid.

Mr. Evans, who leaves Amman Tuesday, was briefed on the latest developments in the area, particularly the joint Jordanian-Palestinian peace efforts, Petra said.

Meanwhile, Mr. Murphy arrived in Israel later Monday and held talks with Israeli Foreign Minister, Yitzhak Shamir.

Mr. Murphy later emerged from the meeting and told reporters "we had wide-ranging and constructive talks." He declined further comment.

Peres wins battle with Shamir over Weizman's visit to Egypt

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Prime Minister Shimon Peres Monday narrowly defeated an attempt by his coalition's main partners to stop Ezer Weizman from visiting Egypt, Mr. Peres' office said.

Hours before the trip was set to begin, Mr. Peres polled cabinet ministers by phone to gain their approval for Mr. Weizman to go ahead with planned meetings with President Hosni Mubarak and other Egyptian leaders.

Mr. Weizman, a minister without portfolio, played a key role in forging a peace treaty with Egypt in 1979 and currently has special responsibility for relations with Cairo.

In a virtually unprecedented move, Mr. Peres was forced to conduct the telephone poll of his full cabinet after the so-called inner cabinet of 10 withheld approval for the trip. The final vote was 13-12 for the visit to take place.

Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, leader of the right-wing Likud bloc — one of nine parties in the government — led opposition to the visit. Mr. Shamir said Mr. Weizman was usurping his authority as foreign minister.

The ministers voted 13 to 12 in favour of the trip, Mr. Peres' office said. After the telephone ballot, Mr. Weizman told reporters he would be leaving for Cairo for a

goodwill mission.

Mr. Weizman, who was making the visit in response to an invitation by Egyptian Premier Kamal Hassan Ali, told reporters immediately after the vote that he was leaving for the airport to catch a plane to Cairo "on a mission of good will with the approval of the government of Israel."

Israel army radio said he would propose upgrading the current Egyptian envoy to Israel, Mohammad Bassiouny, to the rank of ambassador to resolve a chill in relations that resulted from Egypt's recall of its ambassador at the start of the 1982 Lebanon invasion.

Political commentators suggested that even though Mr. Peres had won the cabinet battle the coalition might still be vulnerable to collapse as a result of ongoing policy disputes.

The storm blew up unexpectedly Sunday at the weekly cabinet meeting when Mr. Shamir came out against the Weizman trip and ministers voted 10-9 to postpone approval.

"Here comes one man who decides that he has been appointed the prince of peace... and that he can melt hearts through his charm," Mr. Shamir said of Mr. Weizman in a speech to Likud supporters.

Israel Radio said Mr. Shamir

told the inner cabinet he opposed Mr. Weizman's visit because it coincided with a Middle East tour by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy, who arrived from Jordan Monday for talks with Mr. Peres and Mr. Shamir.

Mr. Peres, anxious to thaw the cold peace with Egypt, was described by associates as furious at Mr. Shamir's move to stop the trip. Newspapers speculated that the Peres-Shamir relationship, crucial for the survival of the fragile coalition, might be permanently soured.

When the government was formed last September, Mr. Peres agreed to step down as prime minister and give Mr. Shamir the job after 25 months.

There has been a growing rift between the Labour Party and the Likud Bloc on both domestic and foreign affairs. This has lent support to predictions that their "national unity government" could fall apart before its four-year term expires in 1988.

Police Minister Haim Bar-Lev, a member of the Labour Party, said "It would be absurd" if Israel retracted its acceptance of the Egyptian invitation. "It would, in my view, cause great danger to Israel and the government," he told reporters.

Sudan seeks better relations with Soviets, Libya and Ethiopia

KHARTOUM (Agencies) — Sudan's new military ruler General Abdul Rahman Swareddahab said Monday he sought greatly improved relations with the Soviet Union, Libya and Ethiopia than under deposed President Jaafar Numeiri.

"In fact, I have sent messages to the presidents of the USSR, Libya and Ethiopia expressing our wish that we would like our relations to be far better than they used to be under the past regimes," he told a news conference.

Mr. Numeiri, ousted in a coup on April 6 after major riots, accused the Soviets, Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi and Ethiopia of repeatedly plotting against him

during his 16-year tenure, and particularly of aiding insurgency in southern Sudan.

Gen. Swareddahab said Monday he planned to meet John Garang, the ex-army colonel who leads the rebels in the south.

He said he understood a place had been reserved for Mr. Garang's Sudanese People's Liberation Movement, among other political groups, in an interim civilian cabinet which is to hold office under supervision of a 15-man military council.

Gen. Swareddahab, 51, a grey-haired career soldier, was asked about his future plans for relations with states with which

Mr. Numeiri, a staunch ally of the U.S. and Egypt, fell out.

"We would like to correct certain relations with countries which under the last regime did not receive friendly treatment, or perhaps their relations with the Sudan were not as good as they should be... by that we mean the USSR, Libya and Ethiopia." He said new contacts with these countries would be evident "in the next few days" and then, pressed to be more specific, disclosed that he had sent messages to the various leaders.

Nameiri's asylum in Egypt "threatens ties", page 2



His Majesty King Hussein holds talks with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy on Sunday (Petra photo)

Palestinian leaders hold talks in Baghdad on 'political situation'

BAGHDAD (R) — The Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the Central Committee of the biggest PLO commando group, Fateh, held a joint meeting here Monday under the chairmanship of their leader Yasser Arafat.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said the joint meeting reviewed "the political situation in the Arab and international arenas in the light of the Jordanian-Palestinian accord and movements" taking place in the Arab region.

Mr. Arafat heads both Fateh and the PLO.

It is the first time the PLO Executive Committee has met in Baghdad. Mr. Arafat told Reuters the Iraqi capital had been chosen because it was close to Jordan and Kuwait, where most PLO executive committee members are based.

The PLO and Jordan reached an accord on Feb. 11 on a joint approach to Middle East peace, and particularly the Palestinian problem.

A member of the PLO Executive Committee, Abdul Rahim Ahmad, told the Iraqi News Agency a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation would visit the Soviet Union and China within the next few days.

He said the visits would be aimed at "crystallising a united stand... in solving the Middle East crisis."

Mr. Ahmad said the Palestinian revolution "is in a very important and dangerous curve. It requires wider meetings to discuss its march during this period."

In a statement issued in Baghdad, Palestine National Council (PNC) Speaker Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Saeh said the Baghdad meeting was expected to "tackle the Arab moves in general and the joint Jordanian-Palestinian moves in particular, in the Arab and international levels to find a solution in the Palestinian problem."

The meeting would also discuss the recommendations of the Fez Arab summit in 1983 which called for self-determination for the Palestinian people and an independent state in the Palestinian soil (the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza, and the possibilities of convening an international conference on the Palestinian problem, he said.

The PLO leadership would also review the current situation in the Israeli-occupied territories and the situation in South Lebanon, particularly the situation of the Palestinian refugees living in camps there, Sheikh Saeh said.

On Sunday, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein reaffirmed Iraq's support for the PLO during a meeting with Mr. Arafat.

The INA said that in talks with Mr. Arafat, "the president reaffirmed Iraq's full support, thir-

ough all means, for the PLO — the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people in their struggle to restore their legal rights."

The two men also discussed the Iran-Iraq war, the agency reported.

Mr. Arafat arrived in Baghdad Saturday night and had already held talks with Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Fawaz Aziz.

The PLO leader left Amman Saturday after talks with King Hussein on joint Jordan-PLO peace moves.

The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said after Mr. Arafat held talks with the King and senior Jordanian officials that the PLO and Jordan agreed on the "next phase" of moves to follow up the Feb. 11 agreement.

Simultaneous with the announcement, a joint delegation visited Algiers. No details were available on the outcome of the delegation's talks in Algiers.

However, shortly before Mr. Arafat left on Saturday he received a message from Algerian President Chadli Benjedid. No details were available on the contents of the message, which was delivered by the Algerian ambassador to Mr. Arafat.

During his visit to Amman, Mr. Arafat also held talks with at least five members of the U.S. Congress.

Lebanon reinforces army in south

SIDON, Lebanon (Agencies) — The army on Monday dispatched 30 armoured personnel carriers (APCs) to Sidon to help halt 18 days of factional fighting that has claimed 79 lives in the provincial capital of South Lebanon.

The often-delayed dispatch of the reinforcements to Sidon's tiny military garrison suggested agreements had been reached between rival militias to let the army move in to disengage the combatants.

A four-party security committee representing the army and the principal civil war militias went with the armoured column to the south to work out final arrangements for the deployment of the APCs at Sidon's embattled eastern outskirts.

Part of the APC force also would be assigned to the southern Lebanese market town of Nabatieh, which the Israeli occupation army evacuated last Thursday, and one Lebanese officer said the vehicles could be there "in perhaps two or three days."

The move to send the APCs came hours after Prime Minister Rashid Karami openly accused rebels within President Amin Gemayel's Falange Party of provoking the Sidon hostilities to help create a "security belt" on Israel's northern border.

Mr. Karami said Falangist rebels led by Samir Geagea had dispatched fighters from the Christian heartland north of Beirut to the Sidon region last month and "this caused the blow up there."

The pro-Israeli Geagea seized control of most of the mostly Christian hinterland in a revolt against the Falange Party's Syrian-oriented leadership March 12. All Falangist militia garrisons stationed in South Lebanon declared allegiance to him.

Mr. Karami said Israel was trying to force a redistribution of South Lebanon's population so that a Falangist-controlled security belt is created on its northern border.

"Israel wants a demographic redistribution of the population to create the security belt along the international frontier. In order to achieve this, it was necessary to provoke sectarian violence and Sidon was the victim," Mr. Karami said.

Mr. Karami called for a speedy withdrawal of Falangist fighters from Sidon's environs and a hand over of all security duties in and around the port city to the Lebanese army.

He said his decision last week to boycott cabinet meetings until arrangements are enforced to stop the Sidon fighting has been aimed at pressuring all parties involved to drop reservations against the army's takeover of Sidon.

The brand new APCs have been stuck at Beirut airport for two weeks because militia commands disagreed on how and where the army should deploy in and around Sidon, which is 40 kilometres south of the Lebanese capital.

Not long after the armoured column moved out of Beirut airport, shelling resumed in Sidon after a morning lull. Dark clouds of smoke rose from residential neighbourhoods to the east and sounds of rocket-propelled grenades echoed throughout the empty streets downtown.

Battered Tyre awaits liberation, page 2

Hoxha buried; successor vows to continue policies

VIENNA (Agencies) — Albanians on Monday buried Communist Party chief Enver Hoxha in a hero's grave and his successor pledged to pursue the fiercely independent policies of the late leader to strengthen what he called "fortress Albania."

Mr. Hoxha, who rebuffed ties with the Soviet Union, China and the West, died Thursday at age 76, after ruling the country for 42 years.

ATA, the official news agency, said the route from Skanderbeg Square in central Tirana, to the cemetery of the Martyrs of the Homeland, overlooking the city, was crowded with mourners accompanying the body, which was carried on a gun carriage and draped with the national flag.

No foreign delegations were present. In a break with diplomatic custom, Albania said foreign dignitaries would not be welcome at the funeral and rejected a Soviet telegram of condolences as

"unacceptable."

Albania's new leader, Ramiz Alia said in a funeral oration for the dead leader that Albania and its ruling Communist Party would be "always strong, always red, as you (Hoxha) wanted it."

Reflecting the extreme nationalist stance taken by Mr. Hoxha during his unbecomingly rule that made Albania one of the most secretive and isolated countries in the world, foreign delegations were not allowed and foreign journalists were barred from the funeral ceremony.

Mr. Alia, 59, who holds the posts of first secretary of the Albanian Workers' Party (IAPW) and head of state, said the people must remain on guard to defend the country's victories and "strengthen our fortress socialist Albania," ATA said.

New Albanian leadership ponders over country's future, page 4

S.Africa scraps apartheid sex laws

CAPE TOWN (R) — South Africa announced Monday it would scrap controversial apartheid laws which have banned sex and marriage between whites and non-whites for more than a quarter of a century.

Outlining one of the most significant reforms to apartheid racial segregation policies since the ruling National Party came to power in 1948, Home Affairs Minister F.W. de Klerk told parliament:

"For many years this legislation was probably the most contentious on the South African statute books..."

An unknown of mixed couples have been married overseas or in secret at home, but their marriages were not recognised by South African law.

Protests flare after 8 killed, page 8

INSIDE

- * Israel seeks resumption of U.N. talks on Lebanon, page 2
- * King receives World Blind Federation officials, page 3
- * Oman shows military power to world, page 4
- * Hong Kong seeks new identity, page 5
- * Lendl wins WCT title, page 6
- * Third World states seek task force on debt woes, page 7
- * Spain buries last victim of Madrid blast claimed by 'Islamic Jihad', page 8

Under the patronage of
 His Excellency the Minister of Agriculture
 The Agricultural Trade Association
 is honoured to invite all heads of agricultural and economic missions in Jordan to the opening of the
 First Royal Jordanian Agricultural Show
 At 4 p.m., Wednesday, 17 April 1985, at the
 University of Jordan's Farm in the Jordan Valley - Middle Section
 Due to time shortage, kindly consider this a personal invitation

Israel seeks resumption of U.N. talks on Lebanon

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — A senior Israeli official told the ambassadors of 11 nations Monday that Israel wanted to revive negotiations with Lebanon on the role of U.N. peacekeeping forces in South Lebanon.

Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche told the ambassadors that Israel wanted to define "a positive role" for the 10-nation, 6,000-member United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), spokesman Avi Pazner told reporters after the meeting.

U.N.-sponsored military talks between Israel and Lebanon broke off Jan. 24 after three months of inconclusive talks on coordinating the withdrawal of Israeli troops from South Lebanon.

In a report to the U.N. Security Council, Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar last week recommended the resumption of the talks to prevent a further outbreak of violence in South Lebanon.

A six-month extension of UNIFIL's mandate which expires on April 19 is scheduled to come up for renewal at the Security Council.

Contributing nations circulated a letter pledging continued support to the UNIFIL provided Israel and Lebanon and to cooperate in ensuring security in the area. They also argued for a deployment of U.N. troops along Israel's border.

Mr. Pazner, the Foreign Ministry spokesman, said Israel was ready to resume the suspended negotiations which were held in the Lebanese border town of Naqura where UNIFIL is headquartered.

"Israel is ready because of the vacuum that exists... to return to the negotiating table at Naqura," Mr. Pazner quoted Mr. Kimche as telling the ambassadors from countries contributing troops to UNIFIL or with seats on the U.N. Security Council.

The ambassadors summoned Monday were from the United States, France, Italy, Britain, Egypt, Holland, Peru, Sweden, Australia, Norway and Finland.

Mr. Pazner said that an agreement on UNIFIL's role was essential to the functioning of the peace force and said that without such an agreement "there can be no effective role for UNIFIL."

But an Israeli official who attended the meeting said Israel would not agree to a deployment of U.N. peacekeepers along its border even if negotiations with Lebanon resumed.

"Israel will never agree to have UNIFIL deployed on our bor-

der," said the official who spoke on condition of anonymity.

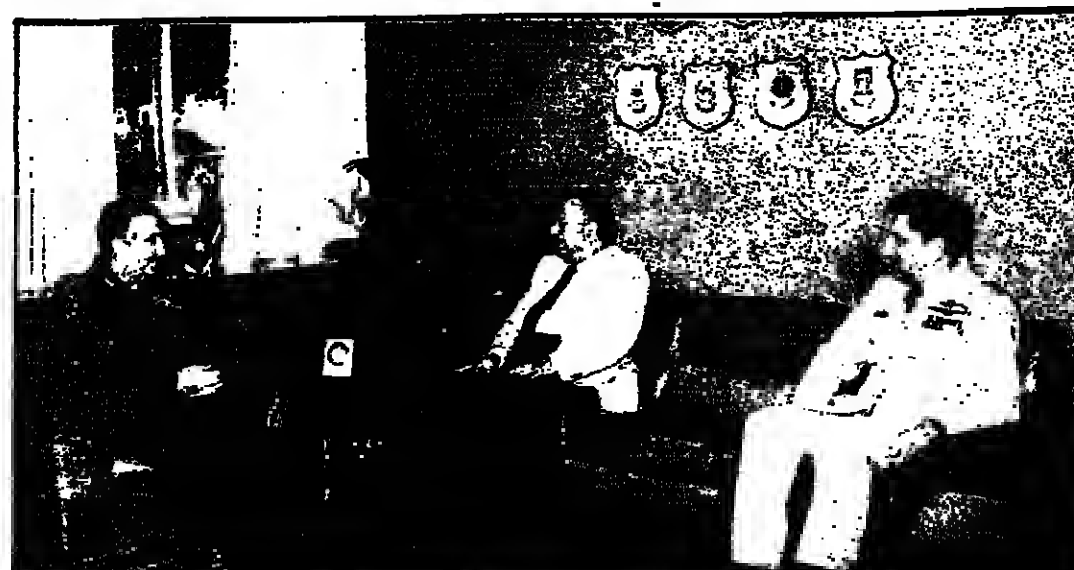
Israel opposed the U.N. force near its border because "it is not a fighting force. It can only fire in self defence so it cannot stop infiltration," the official said.

The official said Mr. Kimche did not spell out what role UNIFIL should have but added that Israel would like to have U.N. troops deployed as a buffer force along the Awali River and around Sidon, where Falangist and Palestinian militiamen have been fighting.

Israeli officials have announced plans to create a security zone patrolled by Israeli-backed militiamen up to 10 kilometres deep along the border after Israeli troops withdraw. The evacuation is expected to be completed before June 6, the third anniversary of Israel's invasion.

U.N. troops were stationed in Lebanon in 1978 with a mandate to help the Lebanese government reestablish its authority over the territory down to the border. But the presence of Israeli-backed militiamen prevented U.N. forces from moving down to the frontier.

Meanwhile Israel is building new electronic detection systems, and dozens of fortifications along the Lebanese border in preparation for its troop pullout, the commander of the engineering corps has said.



MILITARY MEETING: Armed Forces member of the Pakistani national civil defence college. The delegation was briefed on the development of the Jordanian Armed Forces and their duties. (Petra photo).

Jordan to take part in ECWA meeting

BAGHDAD (Petra) — Jordan, along with 14 Arab countries, will participate in the 12th meeting of the Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA) to be held in Baghdad on April 24.

ECWA's activities and two reports by its technical and executive councils in addition to a general report on the economic and social conditions of the Palestinian people will be on the agenda of the two-day meeting.

GCC start air exercises next Sunday

KUWAIT (R) — Saudi Arabia and its five allies in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) will hold joint air exercises over Kuwait next Sunday, the Kuwaiti News Agency quoted military officials as saying.

It gave no details on the manoeuvres, the latest in a series of military exercises between Gulf council members Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, Oman, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates.

Kuwait frees 332 from jail

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait has released 332 prisoners jailed for capital offences, under a General Emiri Amnesty which excluded those charged with political crimes.

An official statement said 91 of those released were Kuwaiti nationals. It did not identify the others.

The Emiri Decree, which usually coincides with Kuwait's National Day on Feb. 25, said prisoners charged with acts of political subversion and sabotage were not included in the amnesty order.

Numeiri's asylum in Egypt reportedly threatens ties

KHARTOUM (R) — Egypt's decision to grant asylum to Sudan's deposed leader Jaafar Numeiri poses a threat to Cairo's historical ties with Khartoum as calls for his extradition to stand trial here become a popular demand.

Mr. Numeiri, who came to power 16 years ago in a military coup, learned of his overthrow during a stopover at Cairo en route here after a nine-day visit to Sudan's largest political party said.

Two days later, Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak told reporters that Mr. Numeiri could stay in Egypt as long as he wished.

Gen. Abdul Rahman Mohammed Hassan Swareddahab, who led the coup that toppled Mr. Numeiri on April 6, said he would ask Egypt to extradite him, but not for the time being. Gen. Swareddahab, a 51-year-old career soldier appointed defence minister by Numeiri last month, said in his first foreign policy statement last week that he would work for better relations with Egypt.

But Western diplomats in Khartoum believe there would soon come a stage when he would bow to public pressure and ask Egypt to hand him back.

Mr. Numeiri, once among Africa's longest-surviving rulers, is now dubbed by the Sudanese press he once controlled as a dictator, butcher and murderer. The diplomats, while noting that Cairo's long-term strategy made close ties with Sudan imperative, believed Egypt was unlikely to respond favourably to such a request but would do its best to avoid a crisis in ties with its southern neighbour.

They said Mr. Numeiri himself could provide a way out by leaving Egypt of his own will to spare Mr. Mubarak an embarrassing situation with the new leadership in Sudan.

Thousands of Sudanese demonstrated outside the Egyptian embassy here last weekend demanding that Cairo hand back Mr. Numeiri for what they called a

Benjedid starts U.S. visit today

PARIS (R) — Algerian President Chadli Benjedid arrives in Washington Tuesday for a visit aimed at putting former tense U.S.-Algerian political relations on a par with traditionally good trade and economic links.

The Algerian News Agency APS, monitored in Paris, said Mr. Benjedid — the first Algerian president to pay an official visit to the U.S. since independence from France in 1962 — was not going there to ask favours or seek financial aid.

Western diplomats in Algiers said the visit was a major development in Socialist Algeria's foreign policy, even if it might not produce spectacular, immediate results.

It is a step towards truer non-alignment, official policy since 1962, they said, adding that Algeria had been closer to Moscow than Washington under former leaders Ahmad Ben Bella and Houari Boumedienne.

While trade and economic relations with the U.S. were flourishing, Algeria was one of the most vocal critics of "imperialism" in the Third World and its armed forces are still 85 per cent Soviet-equipped, they added.

U.S. officials said U.S.-Algerian ties had become warmer since Mr. Benjedid succeeded the late Houari Boumedienne as president six years ago and turned Algeria towards what is seen here as more truly non-aligned policies.

The relationship took a leap forward when Algeria played a crucial negotiating role in securing the January 1981 release of American diplomats held hostage in Iran.

President Reagan is expected to thank Mr. Benjedid when the two men hold talks at the White House on Wednesday morning following colourful welcoming ceremonies.

U.S. officials said likely topics would include the Arab-Israeli conflict and North African affairs, where Algeria supports a desert war being waged by Polisario guerrillas against Morocco, long a close American ally.

The United States is expected to urge Algeria to support a negotiated settlement of the war.

Morocco shocked the Reagan administration last August when it forged a political union with Libya, a country repeatedly branded by Washington as a subversive threat to its neighbours.

Three years ago, Algeria bought a dozen C-130 Hercules transport planes from Washington.

825,000 Indians work in Mideast, minister says

NEW DELHI (R) — A total of 825,000 Indians are working in the Middle East as skilled and unskilled labour, the Indian government said Monday.

T. Anjanah, minister of labour, told parliament the largest number, 250,000, work in United Arab Emirates, while Saudi Arabia had the second highest with 240,000.

The Indians earned about the same as comparable workers from

other Asian countries but less than their European equivalents, he added.

The foreign exchange remitted by Indians working abroad is vital for the country's balance of payments, bankers say.

At June 30 last year, bank deposits in India held by expatriate Indians, many of them from the Middle East, amounted to 30.4 billion rupees (\$2.5 billion), according to official figures.

Battered Tyre awaits liberation

By William MacLean

Reuter

TYRE, Lebanon — All Israelis in this South Lebanese port and its environs will have left for new frontlines further south by April 24, Western military sources in the region say. The people of Tyre are counting the days.

"It's like old-time Chicago with the shooting we have here at night," said a Lebanese army captain stationed near Israeli barracks. "We'll only sleep properly when they are gone."

Streets, under dusk-to-dawn curfew, are virtually deserted round the clock. "Everyone stays inside all day and waits for the Israelis to leave," said a shopkeeper, one of a handful who keeps premises open.

Once militarily pre-eminent, Israeli troops now take shelter in strongpoints from sporadic resistance rocket attacks. Residents stay at home for fear of travelling the dusty, pot-holed roads where the Israelis and the resistance often clash.

Suicide car bomb attacks and roadside explosions have forced the Israelis to cut down on patrols, the sources said. "Most of them stay in strongpoints all day. To come outside risks certain attack," one source said.

Many of the 32 Israeli soldiers killed in Lebanon since Israel completed the first stage of its withdrawal by pulling out of Sidon in February died in commando and bomb attacks in the Tyre area.

which has an estimated population of 100,000.

Fighting in the port of Sidon to the north cut Tyre's electricity for five days last week. Water pumps failed, forcing people to use six fresh water wells.

Lack of fuel has pushed the price of 20 litres (4.5 gallons) of petrol or a bottle of cooking gas to 65 Lebanese pounds (\$3.5), twice the price north of Israeli lines 15 kilometres away.

Unpicked fruit hangs rotting in roadside orange, lemon and banana groves that are shot up regularly by passing Israeli vehicles trying to deter attacks. "Even if we could pick the oranges we can't take them anywhere for sale," said a farmer.

Convoys of trucks taking dismantled military positions home to Israel are the only regular traffic in the area.

After last Tuesday's suicide car bomb attack in which a 16-year-old girl killed two Israeli soldiers, only a few taxi drivers ventured out onto the roads around the city, braving shooting by highly nervous Israeli patrols.

On a lonely stretch of coast road south of Tyre the next day, a Mercedes taxi carrying a Reuters reporter and an Israeli patrol each braked to a standstill within seconds of sighting the other at a distance of 100 metres.

After watching the taxi through binoculars for 30 seconds, the Israeli in a jeep and two armoured personnel carriers inched forward with machine guns trained on the

car.

"Even if you move to open a window at such a moment, it's enough to start them shooting," said the taxi driver. Motorists had been shot for obeying contradictory orders from Israeli troops, he said.

"One soldier will signal you to move forward, but another behind him might signal you to stay put by mistake. Whoever you disobey is likely to shoot," he said.

Israeli troops conducting a search in Tyre last Tuesday shot at a foreign reporter disobeying an Israeli ban on driving alone, security sources said. The next day, they shot an unarmed motorist in the leg when he obeyed an order to get out of his car at a checkpoint, the sources said.

Travel on foot has been made hazardous by unexploded bombs, missiles and bullets and dangerous slivers of shrapnel left half-buried in the earth during a decade of fighting.

U.N. peacekeeping troops in villages south and east of Tyre, the only non-Israelis entitled to pass Israeli checkpoints without stopping, say their area is virtually immobilised by the Israeli occupation.

French and Irish U.N. soldiers said a web of Israeli roadblocks cuts off Tyre from the resistance village strongholds of Maarakeh and Taura, scene of punitive Israeli search operations and centre of fierce resistance to Israel's 34-month-old occupation.

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16:05 Instrumentals
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19:30 Date with a Star
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21:05 Evening Show Contd.
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Rays of hope for Lebanon

LEBANESE President Amin Gemayel recently voiced his support for the cabinet boycott by Prime Minister Rashid Karami, who expressed anger at delays in the execution of cabinet orders for extra troops to be equipped with armour and sent to stop factional fighting in different parts of the country, especially the south.

After ten years of civil war, which claimed thousands of lives and divided the country into many parts ruled by different militias, the national unity government, which is composed of the leaders of all Lebanese factions, is understandably having difficulty in passing laws that would be agreeable to all concerned parties. Since the national unity government is the only government that can pull Lebanon out of its civil strife and stop the daily bloodshed in different parts of the country, the government is desperately in need of a loyal, strong and well-equipped army to implement the decisions of the government.

Since the newly restructured Lebanese army is far from being the kind of force that could withstand the great pressures of the different militias who have acquired battle experience during the last 10 years and who are strong forces to be reckoned with, the government's main task must be to boost the army in number and equipment to withstand the hard task of implementing the government's decisions. At the same time the war-weary Lebanese must throw their support behind the army to facilitate their task in bringing peace to the country.

The Lebanese people must make their choice either to throw their weight behind the national unity government backed by a strong and united army or they continue the civil war that is destroying a proud Arab country, socially, culturally and economically, thus making it a target for foreign intervention and pushing Lebanon to a point of no return.

We have been heartened by the news from Lebanon last week that leaders of the Christian community are ready for, and indeed insist upon, opening the necessary dialogue for compromise and reforms with the Muslims. And we are also happy to hear reports of the army finally managing to send reinforcements to Sidon to keep the peace there.

These are positive and important developments for a country that has suffered so much already. But the trend has to continue if Lebanon is to survive and regain its strength, independence and sovereignty.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Iraq defends itself

IRAQ HAS repeatedly declared its desire to reach a peaceful settlement to the current conflict with Iran. It has done so from a position of strength and after proving that its forces are able to repel any Iranian aggression. Now Iraq has warned the international community of a fresh Iranian offensive on Iraqi territory and called the world's attention to Iran's massing of new forces to launch an attack on Iraq, urging the United Nations to shoulder its responsibilities and prevent this aggression before it starts.

Iraq is not calling out for help but it is merely warning all nations that it would have to resort to new kinds of weapons to defend itself. Iraq has the right to do so and is surely able to inflict huge losses on the Iranians if they carry out their new adventure. The coming blow to the Iranian military establishment and the Iranian people at large will be devastating, but more importantly, it will make it more and more difficult for either side to accept a peaceful solution to the conflict. Therefore, the United Nations is now called on to exert all possible efforts for ending this conflict and the suffering of people on both sides of the battlefield.

It is dangerous not only for this region but also for world peace to leave this conflict unsettled, and it is time for the world community to find a just and honourable solution to the whole issue lest it would extend to neighbouring regions and later to other parts of the world.

Al Dustour: Lebanese should work together

TEN YEARS after the start of the Lebanese civil war and the conflict in Lebanon seems far from being settled. Despite the conferences and the foreign interventions, the warring conflicts seem to have returned to square one, with violence spreading unchecked to the north and south and to all parts of the capital Beirut.

The warring factions could, if they meet, find a temporary solution and stop the clashes, but the atmosphere will remain tense paving the way for more fighting unless a political settlement to the basic issues of the civil war is found and unless practical steps are taken to build new basis for agreement on the form of government and its institutions. Despite the departure of foreigners and the phased withdrawal of the Israelis from Lebanon, the warring groups are still unable to find a common ground for ending their conflict.

The different parties seem to be unable to reach a political settlement and the fighters in the streets will therefore continue to cling to their guns, and because no democratic dialogue has taken place among the leaders of these parties, the militias will continue to pursue their way of settling the conflict by force.

On the tenth anniversary of the civil war in Lebanon we can only reiterate the fact that not a single party can win the conflict by force, nor can any group impose its will on the others.

Sawt Al Shaab: U.S.-PLO talk necessary

THE CHANGE in Arab political stands with regard to the Middle East problem and the acceptance by the PLO of a peaceful settlement to the Palestine issue ought to bring about a corresponding change in United States' policies towards the region and the Arab countries.

If a current visit to the region by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy falls within this concept, then we understand that the United States is serious in its efforts to achieve a settlement. But it should be emphasised that so far Washington's declared policy towards the Arabs and its attitude in the peace-making process is still unacceptable. The United States ought to recognise and talk to the PLO because it is the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and Washington should be serious in its efforts to cooperate with Syria in solving the issue because Syria has a significant role in the region, and in the peace-making process.

If Damascus is unwilling to cooperate with Washington in view of previous U.S. policies, this should not give the U.S. a pretext to refrain from embarking on a meaningful effort to solve the crisis.

Oman shows off combat forces to the world

By Jonathan Wright
 Reuter

MUSCAT — In a rare gesture designed to demonstrate its ability to defend itself, the strategic Gulf state of Oman this month showed off its armed forces to the world and spoke openly about the threats to its security.

The military threw open the doors of Masirah and other sensitive air bases to the press, gave details of military cooperation with the West and took visitors to see half the Omani army in action in the largest manoeuvres ever held here.

The sultanate's modest navy staged a practice assault on a coastal village, supposedly occupied by "terrorists", while the army and air force fought off an "invasion" from an imaginary neighbouring Marxist-ruled state with designs on its oil fields.

The occasion was the coming of age of Oman's reorganised armed forces, rather than last month's Gulf war escalation which came long after preparations for the

manoeuvres began.

The army has grown from about 14,500 men in 1980 to around 20,000 today and is still growing. Officers said the navy intends to double its manpower to 4,000 as soon as is feasible.

Sultan Qaboos Ibn Said, Oman's pro-Western monarch, has been building up his country's military might since he ousted his isolationist father in 1970 and inherited a chronic revolt in the southern province of Dhofar.

His armed forces, with help from Britain, some Arab countries and the Shah of Iran, had pacified Dhofar by the end of the 1970s when the Iranian revolution and Soviet intervention in Afghanistan seemed to signal a crisis to the north.

Long-standing border disputes with Oman's neighbours, South Yemen, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, and concern that internal troubles might recur have also kept the troops on their toes.

Oman feels more secure today

than at any time since 1970, however, a factor which encouraged the armed forces to commit so much of its strength to an exercise held far from the borders.

Sultan Qaboos this month said that Oman and the emirates had reached a compromise in their 10-year dispute over the frontier around the Oasis of Buraimi.

Border talks with South Yemen are proceeding slowly but steadily and the two countries are expected to appoint their first ambassadors in Muscat and Aden later this month.

Sultan Qaboos, in an interview with the Egyptian magazine Al-Musawwar, said he saw no direct and immediate threat to the Gulf from outside the Gulf countries, despite the Iran-Iraq war.

He said the real threat "lies in attempts to destabilise the Gulf from within by exporting terrorism into Gulf states... (this) is the more likely target."

With its strict controls on immigration, efficient internal security apparatus and only small communities of Shi'ites, Oman is bet-

ter placed than many of its Gulf neighbours, diplomats said.

A constantly rising standard of living, financed by growing oil revenues, has also helped to neutralise any internal dissent to the Sultan's rule, they added.

Military precautions against any rebellion persist to some extent, as shown in the navy's practice assault and the air force's training in counter-insurgency operations.

Officers who briefed reporters during armed forces "open week" said the foreign threats for which the Omani military has been preparing came from Iran and South Yemen. Neither were immediate or serious, they added.

At times during the Gulf War, Iran has threatened to close the Strait of Hormuz, where Gulf oil tankers pass through Omani territorial waters on their way out of the Gulf.

Officers at the naval base on Goat Island, where Oman monitors traffic through the strait, said it would be extremely difficult to close Hormuz physically because of the width and depth of the cha-

nel. Iran was unlikely to try to close it anyway, because of the political repercussions of tampering with a recognised international waterway, they added.

The Omanis, often described as "guardians of the strait", made it clear they saw their role as closer to that of traffic policemen rather than defenders of last resort.

Defence Under-Secretary Major-General Hassan Ibn Ehsan Ibn Naseeb told reporters in Muscat that the Omani Armed Forces would act independently to protect the strait, calling in help from friendly countries if necessary.

With U.S., French and British navy ships stationed permanently within easy reach of the Strait, Western help would never be far away.

Muscat and Washington also have an agreement allowing U.S. forces to use Omani air bases for a variety of purposes, with diplomatic clearance on each occasion.

Omani air force officers on Masirah Island, Oman's most elab-

orate air base, told reporters U.S. P-3 marine reconnaissance planes regularly land there to pick up sonobuoys for their next mission.

U.S. C-5 Galaxy and mammoth C-141 Starliner transports use the base to service the Indian Ocean fleet, which sends in helicopters to pick up supplies about once a week, they added.

A third element in Oman's defence is its military relations with partners in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) — Qatar, Kuwait, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and the Emirates. At a GCC summit in Kuwait last November, GCC officials announced the formation of a joint rapid deployment force able to intervene if any of the six states sought help.

Sultan Qaboos has said he is against a Gulf military alliance or a GCC force under a united command and GCC troops were conspicuous by their absence from this month's military manoeuvres in Oman.



Panama Canal in service for seventy years

The Panama Canal is still a feat of engineering, but as a business it has to compete with other routes and forms of transport. Robert Graham, recently in Panama, reports that the canal is struggling to overcome recession.

AT NINE in the morning the crowd of tourists is let in to visit Miraflores Lock at the Pacific entrance to the Panama Canal.

It remains to this day one of the great wonders of modern engineering, with virtually all the same machinery operational since the canal's first use 70 years ago. But the tourists who expect to see vessels going through the locks are disappointed. By the time they arrive, the ships have already passed through. Traffic is down to an average of 32 ships a day in both directions against a one-time high of 40 and a capacity of 42 per day. The world recession is directly to blame.

Towards the end of 1984 there was a slight upturn reflecting a modest improvement in Latin American economies and the recovery in the U.S. But projections for the current U.S. fiscal year by the Panama Canal Commission anticipate no substantial change with the daily average at 32.5 vessels, the same as 1983.

The decrease in canal traffic was accounted for by a decline in the transit of three key items — petroleum products, grains and coal. The most marked drop was in North Slope Alaska shipments, which declined from 4.4 million tons in 1983 to only 36,000 tons. This reflected the full operation of the trans-Panama oil pipeline designed to take Alaskan crude. The

drop in crude transit meant a loss of \$55 million in revenue, and the overall loss might have been more had not there been an increase in the movement of petroleum products to 1.3 million tons.

The largest tonnage drop occurred in grain movements. According to the Canal Commission the decline resulted from "a diversion of U.S. corn exports to West Coast ports, a drought which severely reduced U.S. corn production, and increased competition from Canada, Australia and Argentina, in part a result of the strength of the U.S. dollar." There was, however, an increase in wheat trade passing through the canal. This was up 60 per cent to nine million tons, largely due to the resumption of U.S. exports to China, totalling 4.2 million tonnes.

Meanwhile the canal coal trade was down 56 per cent on 1982 levels, reflecting low steel production in Japan and an increase in the amount of coal bypassing the canal. The percentage of U.S. East Coast coal shipments to the Far East bypassing the canal increased 45 per cent last year. However, this year the start-up of Colombian coal exports should to some extent offset this.

Toll revenue was marginally up to \$289 million (\$287 million), reflecting the full effect of a toll

rise in March 1983. This year the Canal Commission is projecting toll revenue to be \$310 million. The average charge per vessel is \$25,000.

Mr. Fernando Manfredo, deputy administrator of the Canal Commission and the senior Panamanian on it, said in a recent interview: "We will make every effort not to raise tolls this year. We are very conscious that we have to share the effects of the recession with the rest of industry."

However, he pointed out that the 50-mile long waterway had 75 per cent fixed costs. "When traffic goes down the costs remain virtually the same. Thus we must maintain a steady flow of traffic."

Mr. Manfredo believes it is healthy that the canal is no longer a monopoly and that alternate routes are being used like the oil pipeline. Much thought is now being devoted to accommodating larger vessels. Between 1955 and 1984 the average size of vessels increased by a factor of almost three. The number of larger vessels the canal now can accommodate, of 100 ft beam and over, has risen from less than one per cent of total transits to 19 per cent. However, if the canal is to take more large vessels the Gaillard Cut, the narrowest part of the waterway, will need to be enlarged.

The problem here is not so much the lack of funds but rather the nature of the 1979 Canal Treaty between Panama and the U.S. Under the terms of the treaty the U.S. is due to hand over the canal

in perfect operating order and free of debt. The U.S. government refused to accept in the treaty negotiations that the canal investments had been amortised. Thus any new big investment entails complex discussions on amortisation.

The Panamanians never accepted the U.S. argument that the canal investments had not been amortised and, in private, they believe this is a device to lessen the amount of real earnings Panama receives from the canal.

At present funds are still set aside from the notional operating profit to cover amortisation. Panama receives \$10 million as an annual annuity, \$10 million as a public service payment, a fee of 30 cents per ton of shipping and then a direct payment if there is a sufficient income left after operating costs. Last year Panama received a total of \$69 million.

The Panamanian government has not yet sought extra payments from the Canal Commission. Rather it is trying to make better use of the canal.

President Nicolas Ardito Barletta is anxious to develop the twin ports at either end of the canal, Colon and Panama City, as a single container centre, reactivating the canal railway.

"A recent report showed that worldwide there was a need for 12 major container ports, and we very much hope that Panama can be one of those," he said — Financial Times news feature.

The new Albanian leadership to ponder the country's future

By Jan Krcmar
 Reuter

VIENNA — The death of Enver Hoxha, who ruled his country single-handed for 40 years, leaves Albania with a leadership that must learn to rule before it can decide the country's political future.

The authority of Mr. Hoxha, who died Thursday aged 76, was undisputed and Albania was the last bastion of orthodox Communism based on the Stalinist model.

Purges of those opposing Mr. Hoxha's switches from friendship to rupture with neighbouring Yugoslavia in the 1950s, with the Soviet Union in 1961 and China in 1978 resulted in a leadership which supported his line without an apparent opinion of its own.

Mr. Hoxha's successors, led by their apparent President Ramiz Alia, must now decide whether to keep Albania in its isolation or pursue Mr. Hoxha's recent cautious moves to improve links with some Western countries.

"We shall continue our efforts to improve relations with all countries regardless of their social system, but we shall still reject the political lines of the imperialist powers — the Soviet Union and the United States and their military blocs," an Albanian diplomat said in Vienna.

Over the past four years Mr. Hoxha had begun cautiously looking for friends in the West, starting with neighbouring Greece and Italy, while firmly rejecting overtures for better relations from Moscow and its allies.

Greece and Italy are among the few Western nations that have embassies in Tirana, Albania's capital.

Albania and Greece recently opened a new border crossing, while the country's ties with Italy have a long tradition dating from before World War II. Italy's national airline is one of the few Western carriers to have direct flights to Tirana.

In 1984 Franz Josef Strauss, leader of the right-wing Bavarian sister-party of West Germany's ruling Christian Democratic Union, was the first politician from that country to visit Albania since the war.

West Germany has no diplomatic links with Tirana, which demands reparation for losses during the German occupation in World War II.

But Western diplomats in Vienna said they have heard of secret talks between Tirana and Bonn on a compromise that could result in substantial West German financial aid to Albania.

Some Western diplomats think a power struggle within the leadership could ensue between supporters of greater opening to the West and those fearing this would weaken the staunchly independent line laid down by Mr. Hoxha.

"Though all those in the leadership are men loyal to Mr. Hoxha, we could see a power struggle within the next year over what political line to take," one diplomat said.

"Hoxha's death is bound to be a shock to the majority of the population but there are also many who will be relieved and hope for a new wind to blow," he added.

Albanian diplomats, however, insist there will be no changes in Tirana's domestic or foreign policy. "The path Hoxha took us on will be continued. That is what we Albanians chose ourselves and Albania's stance will remain the same," one said.

Most Western diplomats agree, predicting there will be no major shift in power on the domestic front and that Mr. Alia, 59, will seek to consolidate his position.

He has been a politburo member since 1961 and number two since the suicide of Prime Minister Mehmet Shehu was announced in 1981. Afterwards Mr. Hoxha denounced Mr. Shehu, previously considered his right-hand man, as an agent of Washington, Moscow and Belgrade.



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Hong Kong seeks new identity

Introducing a special report on Hong Kong, John Gittings explains the need for change to start at once in anticipation of 1997.

THE YEAR 1997 may seem far enough ahead, but when the responsible persons in Hong Kong start counting backwards, they quickly realise that the handover to China is almost tomorrow.

If there is to be a "smooth transfer of government" as indicated in the Sino-British Joint Declaration, then the transfer of Hong Kong into the hands of the Hong Kong Chinese should be basically completed several years before.

Otherwise the autonomy of the new Special Administrative Region of China will mean very little. If there is to be a proper democratic system, as promised belatedly to the local people, its shape should start to become clear in the scheduled 1987 review of progress so far — in time for the 1988 elections.

And, most important, if the people of Hong Kong — from civil servants to street hawkers — are to feel comfortably Chinese as citizens of the People's Republic after 1997, then the re-adjustment must begin soon for the children who will be adults by then. Those who are older, and who don't intend to bolt, will prefer some reeducation before rather than after.

"We have to start today," says a senior government official in more subdued tone after expressing his determined optimism. "Goodness only knows," he adds, "how we are going to do it."

The mandarins in Peking and Hong Kong are agreed that however it is done it should be by degrees and that change should filter

osmotically through society. Neither side enjoyed the international publicity of 1982-84. The unofficial pressure groups in Hong Kong complain that the issues have already been forgotten abroad. The government is happy to be left to get on with it, quietly lobbying Hong Kong's trading partners to cooperate in maintaining "prosperity," and edging forward with political change which will not affect "stability."

But there is a contradiction between the determination of the Hong Kong and British governments to get it all mapped out by 1997 — preferably well before — and China's habitual preference for leaving things a bit fudged.

A mixture of realism and colonial arrogance lies behind the British view. "We had to translate the unwritten rules which have prevented the system (in Hong Kong) from operating in an undesirable way," says a leading British negotiator of the agreement, "to a system which will contain provisions which are both detailed and binding." What supposedly worked under the Brits, he means, would not work under the orientals.

Yet the Chinese in Peking do not necessarily want everything to be cut and dried when they take over in 1997. In the New China News Agency building, overlooking the historically evocative Happy Valley Racecourse, one of their urbane representatives in Hong Kong puts it delicately. "It is a complicated task," he

says, "to transform a framework which has been colonial and patriarchal for so many years. I would advise our British friends to proceed rather cautiously, and work gradually towards the integration of various demands."

"We do not intend to interfere in this process," he continues after a polite pause. "But we hope the Hong Kong government will not present an iron-clad framework by 1997. They should leave something to be worked out by the future government."

The process began this month with the first elections anyone has taken seriously — and only the second of any size. The English-language dailies put the best possible light on it: "Half a million vote" or "Voters cast a record." In fact, only 37 per cent of the 1.4 million registered voters for the District Board elections turned up at the polls — less than the 40 per cent which senior officials had hoped for. (It was also less than the 1982 percentage based on a much smaller electorate.)

The district boards have limited powers, but they are the first rung on the new democratic ladder. In September their members will elect 10 legislative councillors (two more will be chosen by the Urban and Regional Councils).

Another 12 will be elected by an odd mish-mash of "functional constituencies" of very varied size. Tens of thousands of Hong Kong teachers will be allocated just one seat. But highly select groups of bankers, manufacturers and commercial leaders will have the same right.

The architect of the new electoral strategy, Chief Secretary designate Mr. David Akers-Jones, is still convinced that "Legco" will be a very different place after September, when it also moves symbolically out of the former Colonial Secretariat and into the colonnaded Supreme Court — one of the last buildings left to preserve in sky-scrapered Central District.

The question for Mr. Akers-Jones is how to generate a greater sense of participation through the next round of elections to Legco in 1988, setting the right tone for the 1990s. The way urged by the pressure group critics is to shift quickly to a system of direct elections, involving the Hong Kong people at first hand in choosing their leaders. The 1987 review will probably do this but only to a limited extent according to present thinking.

Mr. Akers-Jones feels undue focus has been placed on the direct versus indirect debate. Over at the New China News Agency they are tactfully noncommittal, but seem to feel the same way. "There are so many divergent views," says the official, "and we would be criticised if we supported any trend."

This air-conditioned urbanity on both sides is extremely persuasive until one steps out into the streets of Hong Kong and considers how such a highly stressed society is going to accommodate itself to change.

The rapid expansion in higher education in the 1970s was not intended to encourage independent political thought. It stemmed from the realisation, guided



by the then governor Murray MacLehose, that new technologies required better and higher technicians. As a senior educationalist put it, "labour was no longer going to be cheap and so something would have to be done in education."

But then, as the quality of life improved, the government had to consider other areas of concern — social work, law, medicine and cultural activities — and thus created the nucleus of a more caring community. These are the very

people who now staff the pressure groups campaigning not only for direct elections but for social justice.

Hong Kong students are highly motivated towards achievement, as they have to be in a society where competition is largely uncontrolled. But a stratum of affected intellectuals could emerge — a prospect which worries the Chinese in Peking especially since Hong Kong is already a refuge for its own disaffected ex-Red Guards.

There are also more familiar sorts of discontent. "We walk on a tightrope all the time," admits a senior official looking out of his window at the swollen streets of Kowloon. "Last year's taxi riots were a reminder of how vulnerable internally as well as externally we are."

It may be a tactless word to the Chinese, but Hong Kong is now in the throes of decolonisation. The people engineering the transition think and behave, for good or otherwise, like colonialists who are

doing the decent thing. The difference with past decolonising experiences is that the people to whom they are handing over are not juridically the people of Hong Kong, but other officials with not dissimilar views in Peking.

Yet stirred up by the turbulent negotiations of 1982-84, and by a whole range of more complex social and economic pressures, Hong Kong's people will not remain passive — nor would the transfer work if they did remain so — The Guardian.

Sea turtle slaughter in paradise

Turtles shared by Indonesia, Australia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Papua-New Guinea are being killed off in Indonesia. Both the turtles and the Indonesian peasants are losing out.

By Winarta Adisubrata

BALI, Indonesia — Balinese turtle catchers have nearly eliminated large turtles from their own waters. Now they are spreading the slaughter to other Indonesian islands and threatening the existence of a valuable source of meat protein.

Through a party to Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES), Indonesia remains one of the world's largest exporters of turtle products. These made \$2 million for Indonesian traders in 1979, though the take has since fallen to less than half that. Major importers are Japan and Singapore, with Japan purchasing tortoiseshell artifacts worth up to \$500,000 in recent years.

The export of turtle bone, leather and shell is a relatively new development. The subsistence harvest of sea turtles and their eggs is traditional among coastal Indonesians, who thus supplement both their diets and their incomes.

In a recent study sponsored by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), Dr. Rodney Salm notes that green turtles — favoured for their meat — are the most commonly traded

species in Bali. The local government fisheries office estimates that 400 tonnes of the meat is eaten each year in Bali.

Some 24,730 kilograms of turtle meat was sold in South Bali, for consumption by locals and tourists alike, during the month of June 1984. But this figure does not include meat from turtles sold live for home slaughter. There are nine slaughter houses in Bali, which butcher more than 3,000 large turtles each year.

According to the WWF study, turtles feeding in the islands of Indonesia are breeding and nesting in as far away as Australia. So they migrate up to 2,500 kilometres, or more between their breeding or nesting grounds and the Indonesian waters where they spend most of their adult lives. "Who has the right to harvest the shared resource, the people of the country in which turtles mate and nest, or those of the country where turtles feed?" the study asks. Dr. Salm is concerned that the excessive slaughter in Bali will eventually exhaust the turtle populations which feed in Indonesia but nest elsewhere. This will jeopardise the species which neighbouring countries are attempting to conserve.

Some populations nest in Ind-



Meat from the Green Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) has traditionally been an important source of protein for Balinese fishermen; but now an important source of protection for Balinese fishermen; but now

onesia, and Bali's fishermen harvest too many of their eggs. Turtles which should be hatching to grow and feed in neighbouring countries, or elsewhere in Indonesia, are not surviving in great enough numbers to replenish populations.

According to Dr. Salm, Indonesia "has unilaterally assumed the right to over-exploit different turtle stocks, mainly the green turtle and the hawksbill turtle, at the egg and adult ends of the life cycle without concern for the management efforts of its neighbours."

The total number of turtles landed in Bali was quite steady throughout the 1970s, reaching a peak in 1978 of over 30,000. Now landings are dropping off, and if trends observed during the WWF study continue, the future decline will be dramatic.

It is mainly Balinese peasant fishermen who catch the turtles. Declining numbers of the large green, hawksbill, flatback and loggerhead turtles has forced them to hunt other species. Traders say that as a result the traffic in the more numerous small turtles has increased sharply in recent years.

Working on the assumption that turtle harvests should be sustainable and benefit the poorest

trade in turtle bone, leather and shells may threaten the species (Earthscan photo)

people, the WWF report recommends that the Indonesian government: ban the export of turtle products, including tourist souvenirs; reduce egg collection by at least 70 per cent for each turtle population; and increase protection of eggs and nesting beaches.

Dr. Salm stressed that Indonesia's efforts to conserve turtles through controlled rearing were inadequate and needed immediate improvement. In addition to scaling down its turtle harvests, Indonesia should enter into an agreement with Papua-New Guinea, Australia, the Philippines and Malaysia to coordinate the tag-

ging, research and management of shared populations. Responding to the report, Professor Rubini Atmawidjaja (Indonesia's Director-General of Forestry Protection and Nature Conservation) commented, "Why worry about green turtles? What is the difference between slaughtering a turtle and a chicken? Nobody should worry about our turtles, after we are successful in farming them. By harvesting from turtle farms we can enjoy slaughtering turtles the same way we are enjoying chicken meat."

If the WWF report's conclusions are correct, Indonesia may be counting its turtles before they hatch — Earthscan feature.

Heroin addiction rising unchecked in Pakistan

By Stephen R. Wilson
Associated Press

PESHAWAR, Pakistan — Dr. Mohammad Shafiq peered into the one-room clinic where 10 heroin addicts sat listlessly on their beds.

"I have to force myself to show my face here anymore," he said. "What are 10 beds in a sea of addicts?"

Dr. Shafiq's disillusionment is reflective of the alarming growth of heroin addiction in Pakistan, especially in this wild frontier region near the Afghan border where, he says, "getting heroin is like getting a pack of cigarettes or a cup of coffee."

Five years ago, not a single case of heroin addiction was recorded in this nation in which both use and trafficking in the drug are illegal. Today there are an estimated 300,000 or more addicts among the 97 million Pakistanis and the number is climbing unchecked. The United States, with three times the population, is estimated to have 500,000 addicts.

The domestic epidemic is an outgrowth of Pakistan's emergence in the 1980s as the world's major conduit and processing centre for heroin. More than half the heroin reaching the veins of junkies in the United States and Europe comes from Pakistan, said the so-called "golden crescent," which includes Afghanistan and Iran.

Drugs are not new in this autonomous tribal belt of the Khyber Pass, the historic passageway to Asia. The local tribesmen, the fiercely proud and independent Pathans, have made cultivation of opium, smuggling and arms manufacture their traditional livelihood.

But under pressure from the U.S. government, which has threatened to cut off economic and military aid, Pakistan is cracking down on the drug trade by closing tribal areas and smashing laboratories where opium is refined into heroin.

On March 13, 500 Pakistani troops backed by artillery guns and armoured personnel carriers swooped into Jamrud, gateway to the Khyber Pass, and destroyed the headquarters of Wali Khan, a rebellious tribal chieftain and alleged heroin kingpin.

Five people were killed in a shootout between soldiers and tribesmen armed with assault rifles. After chieftain Khan refused to surrender by the end of a two-day deadline and fled into the hills, troops pounded his mud-walled fortress with 48 rounds of 100-pound, 155-MM artillery shells.

"We blew the house to smithereens," said Javed Alam Khanzada, the government's political agent in the Khyber. "I have also warned Wali Khan's cronies to surrender. The message is loud and clear: What happened to your chieftain can happen to you also."

The government says at least 40 heroin labs like Wali Khan's have been smashed or dismantled in the past two years — including one near Laddi Kotal, a notorious drugs bazaar in the Khyber, that was processing an estimated 500

kilos (more than half a ton) of heroin in 21 55-gallon drums.

In 1982, Pakistan became the first country ever to intercept a ton of heroin in a year. Last year authorities reported they seized more than two tons of heroin destined for the West and say the figure could double this year.

Officials also are encouraged that Pakistan's opium production has declined from 800 tons in 1979 to a projected 45 tons in 1984-85.

But despite the crackdown on production and smuggling, Pakistan appears to be losing the war on heroin at home.

"The situation is out of hand," Dr. Shafiq said in an interview at the Khyber hospital. "There is no way of knowing for sure but there are definitely 200,000 addicts in the area, maybe much more. The problem may be even worse in other areas."

Heroin in Pakistan is smoked like a cigarette, not injected by needle as in the West. It's cheap, as low as 10 rupees (about 70 U.S. cents) per gram. Many youths are first supplied the heroin free by pushers, and within a week they may be addicted and spending most of their wages to satisfy the habit.

Khan Ali, a 20-year-old farmer, said he was a regular hashish smoker until his friends gave him a free heroin cigarette two-and-a-half years ago. Now he's back at the Peshawar clinic for his second round of treatment, and his parents are selling some of their property to send him to Saudi Arabia to work as a labourer and get away from heroin.

"I'm fed up," Ali said between detoxification treatments with anti-psychotic drugs and decreasing doses of opium. "Heroin is making me weak. I can't work anymore."

While the average opium addict is illiterate and unemployed, a survey by the Mayo hospital in Lahore shows the average heroin user is between 15 and 29 years old, has between three and 10 years of schooling and works as a skilled manual labourer or shopkeeper.

"I am afraid this has now become a drug of fashion," said Prof. Ijaz Ahmad Khan Tareen, head of the Psychiatry Department and project director of the drug clinic at Mayo hospital. "People from the middle and upper classes are taking it. Those who used to drink alcohol have switched. Nobody notices it. You can smoke it anywhere without anyone knowing it's heroin."

Prof. Tareen treated his first two heroin addicts in 1981. The number of new patients jumped to 54 in 1982, 461 in 1983 and 1,078 in 1984. In the first two months of this year, 320 new addicts came to the clinic. If the trend continues, the figure for 1985 will approach 2,000.

"We are only touching the tip of the iceberg," Prof. Tareen said. The end result, narcotics officials say, could be an epidemic of heroin-related street crime. They point to a recent U.S. study that found the average addict committed crimes 255 days a year.

A U.S. farmer's story: Broke and picking up the pieces

By Janie Gabbett
Reuters

BAYLIS, ILLINOIS — Dwayne Hubbard saw his career as a full-time farmer go down the drain on Tuesday Feb. 26 amid the painful spectacle of a debtors' auction.

"It was kind of like a funeral," his wife Barbara recalls of the sale that made them part of the growing saga of U.S. farm bankruptcies. "You feel really sad seeing your machinery go. It is kind of like a part of you, especially for Dwayne."

Looking back on that day, 34-year-old Mr. Hubbard is still stunned by the poor prices his equipment fetched, even though he had painstakingly repainted many items to catch a buyer's eye.

At a time when U.S. farm sales are as common as jumble sales and buyers can afford to be choosy, a tractor bought for \$17,000 two years ago brought in only \$7,000. Another that cost \$12,000 fetched only \$6,500.

And the traumatic sale still left him \$13,000 short of paying off debts incurred at a time of falling farm prices, plummeting land values and high interest rates.

Gazing out a window of his rented white farmhouse, toying with a cigar, he concluded: "I should have got out two years ago when I was still worth something."

His tale is familiar in the Midwest plains area, called "the breadbasket" for its contribution to world granaries.

The Agriculture Department estimates that 34 per cent of America's middle-sized, so-called "family farms" have serious financial problems. More than six per

cent are rated insolvent. Tens of thousands have gone out of business in recent years.

Mr. Hubbard's own farm sale was followed by those of three neighbours in Baylis, a village of about 200 people in this pork-raising and grain-growing area of west central Illinois.

"The next question is who will farm all this land," Mr. Hubbard told Reuters in an interview in which he and his wife explained how their story is typical of so many U.S. farmers.

Barbara says they still dream of a comeback, or at least part-time farming, on a small plot they have retained. "Everyone wants to hang on to a little piece of the farm," she said. "When they are true farmers they cling to that last shred."

Dwayne, who grew up on his father's farm just a couple of kilometres down the road, sees the tractors chugging out of Baylis' red barns for planting season as he looks for funds to seed his own last 63 acres (25 hectares).

The couple began farming nearly 700 rented acres (around 280 hectares) in 1973, growing corn, soybeans and wheat while raising cattle and pigs.

By 1981 the farm was turning a profit and 63 acres adjoining his father's land caught Mr. Hubbard's eye. Land values had just started to fall for the first time in 30 years.

Mr. Hubbard took out a loan from a federal land bank and bought the 63 acres (25 hectares) for \$63,000. The experts said that price was probably a good deal.

The experts were wrong. As inflation has declined in the 1980s, land values have kept fall-

ling and Mr. Hubbard has been caught in the same vicious cycle as countless other farmers — as the land value fell, so did the collateral used to borrow money each year for planting.

Bad weather, low farm prices and high interest rates compounded the problem created by the land-purchase debt.

Farm prices have remained low in recent years as U.S. output has outstripped demand and a strong dollar has priced America's product out of some overseas markets.

So he cut his losses, giving up all his leased land, selling most of his

machinery and all his pigs and cattle.

Dwayne now works as a mechanic at a farm machinery outlet for \$4.50 an hour and fixes neighbours' machinery in his own shed at night. Barbara runs a 220-kilometre mail route and is seeking a second job driving a truck for a cheese factory.

"He tries not to let anything bother him," Barbara said. "It's kind of scary, you know, because you hear about all the farmers who have committed suicide. I keep asking: 'Are you really upset?'"

"I'm not sure he would tell me. Farmers have a lot of pride."

Oxford Dictionary supplement is complete

By Marcus Eliason
Associated Press

LONDON — Zyrans are an obscure central Asian tribe, but to Dr. Robert Burchfield they represent the end of a 28-year Odyssey through the English language.

As dictionaries go, "Zyrian" is truly the last word — the final entry in the final supplement of what, for the foreseeable future, is the final version of that monument to words, the Oxford English Dictionary.

New Zealand-born Burchfield, chief editor of the Oxford dictionaries, finished the Zyrian entry.

"No, I didn't celebrate. I just tied up my papers and went home," he said in a telephone interview from his home near Oxford.

But he did reflect on the mea-

ning of it all, thinking of James Murray, the white-bearded schoolmaster who in 1879 started what was to become a 500,000-word dictionary and worked on it until his death 36 years later when he was halfway through "S."

"I felt that we had been through the same storm and had made the same journey," Mr. Burchfield said.

The 62-year-old etymologist began his career in dictionaries in 1957 as editor of the supplements, which were to catalogue all the words that had come into use in the 30 years since the dictionary was first published.

A to G was completed in 1972, H to N in 1976, and Q to SC in 1982. Zyrian completes SC to Z. Incidentally edging out zymurgy (the chemistry of fermentation) as the last on the list.

There were several battles along the way, as Mr. Burchfield stood firm in including the pejorative uses of words like "Jew" and "street Arab," as well as the major four-letter obscenities.

The dictionary, he argued, had to record usage, not prescribe it.

The four-letter words, he says, "probably upset about half the population but pleased the other half." But he could take comfort from his illustrious forerunner, Dr. Samuel Johnson who, when a society lady expressed shock at the dirty words in his dictionary, replied that he was equally shocked that she had looked them up.

When the problem first arose, Mr. Burchfield checked with the dictionary's board of trustees. "After all," he said, "I was not very long after the publication of 'Lady Chatterley's Lover', D.H.

Lawrence's erotic novel whose publication led to court battles and scandalised many Britons.

The trustees okayed the offending words, "but told us not to make the illustrative examples too rich," he recalled.

Other problems arose over trademarks. Firms whose products are household words usually insisted that the entry have a capital letter. Mr. Burchfield settled for a capital as well as a lower-case entry — hence Hoover, followed by hoover as a verb.

All foreign words were checked with experts. Associate professor Tso Jie of the University of Beijing checked Chinese words like Szechuan, Mah Jongg and the Chinese words that gave English expressions like "scorched earth" and "running dog."



By Plonin in Le Monde (Paris). Cartoonists & Writers Syndicate

Lendl claims WCT crown

DALLAS (R) — Ivan Lendl's blistering serves and devastating forehand shots overpowered Tim Mayotte's serve-and-volley game Sunday to earn the four Czechoslovak the \$150,000 winner's purse in the World Championship Tennis finals tournament.

After being tested in the opening set, the third-seeded Lendl wore down his unranked American opponent 7-6 (7-4), 6-4, 6-1 in an error-filled, early-morning match that rarely excited the crowd in Reunion Arena.

Mayotte, who displayed a sharp serve-and-volley game in ousting fifth-ranked Andres Gimenez, fourth-seed Mats Wilander and Sweden's Joakim Nystrom in earlier rounds, made too many mistakes at the net to create any real threat to Lendl who chose to stick to the baseline.

Lendl stepped up the pressure as the match progressed, finding his range with forehand strokes that swerved past his opponent.

A crowd far below capacity watched as Mayotte committed two successive volleying errors to close the match, allowing Lendl to add a second title to the one he collected in 1982.

Mayotte, 24, who lost the last six games in a row, had the consolation of taking home a cheque for \$80,000 for his achievement in becoming the first unseeded player to reach the final since Dick Stockton in 1977.

Lendl, 25, completed a profitable three weeks during which he won three successive tournaments and earned a total of \$258,000.

The Czechoslovak said his strategy was to undermine Mayotte's new-found confidence by applying pressure from the start, but his opponent's serving and volleying was too steady in the opening stages.

"I was working very hard just to put a lot of balls in play and pass him," he remarked.

Lendl broke through in the fourth game, but Mayotte immediately struck back in the next for his only success against his rival's serve.

Mayotte saved a set point in the 10th game with a volley, and Lendl let him off the hook by missing two backhands.

At 6-6 the set went into a tie-breaker, and Mayotte drew first

blood with a drop shot to move 3-1 ahead. The American made mistakes on his next two serves, first double-faulting and then netting a half-volley, but an overhead smash left him trailing by just 4-5 with two serves to go ahead.

However, he netted a backhand to give Lendl set point, and then sent another backhand sailing beyond the baseline.

Mayotte struggled throughout the second set, and only held the opening game after five deuces.

Lendl found the groove with his own serve, winning four in a row without surrendering a point.

Lendl took advantage of a string of Mayotte errors, including two double faults and two netted volleys, to break serve in the ninth game, and went two sets up in the next game despite a Mayotte rally that staved off two set points.

The American held serve at the start of the third set, but after that Lendl took complete command.

The Czechoslovak broke through in the third game and then, helped by Mayotte errors, won 12 points in a row to extend his margin to 5-1.

Mayotte hit a volley into the net to give Lendl match point, and then repeated the favour to end the tournament.

Lendl believed that Mayotte

suffered a letdown after failing to win the opening set tiebreaker.

"I think he got a little bit tired," he told reporters. "I sensed that around the net he wasn't that quick any more."

At the same time, Lendl's own game improved.

"I was passing him a lot better at the end," Lendl said.

He felt he had benefited from a layoff earlier this year during which he worked on all aspects of his game and experimented with adjustments to his racket.

Since returning to action last month, he has won on concrete in Fort Myers, Florida, on clay last week in Monte Carlo, and now on the fast carpet at Reunion Arena.

"I feel as though I'm now reaping the rewards for a lot of hard work," Lendl said.

Mayotte had no complaints about the match, the seventh time he has lost to Lendl in seven games.

"He passed and served exceptionally well," Mayotte said. "I can't remember him ever getting so many first serves in."

He acknowledged he still had to work on his ground strokes to compete successfully with the likes of Lendl and the top two seeds, John McEnroe and Jimmy Connors, who fell in earlier rounds.

"I don't have anything in the back court to match against Lendl," Mayotte said. "My game has improved drastically, but I have a long way to go. Right now he is a better player."

Lloyd beats Sabatini

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, South Carolina (R) — Top-seeded Chris Evert Lloyd beat surprise finalist Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina, who in a single day Sunday had already upset the second and fourth seeds, to win the \$200,000 Hilton Head women's tennis tournament.

The 6-4, 6-0 victory at the Sea Pines Racquet Club marked the eighth time Lloyd had won the tournament in its 13-year history.

Because of rain which forced suspension of the tournament on Friday and completely washed it out on Saturday, the match was Lloyd's second of the day — and

Sabatini's third.

Lloyd had crushed Steffi Graf of West Germany 6-2, 6-1 in one semifinal match.

The 14-year-old Sabatini had beaten second-seeded Manuela Maleeva of Bulgaria 6-1, 7-6 (11-9), in her semifinal match after completing a 5-7, 7-5, 6-4 quarterfinal win over fourth seed Pam Shriver of the U.S.

Sabatini, speaking through her coach and translator Patricia Apey, said: "I was a little bit tired. I played the same in the second set as I did in the first. The only difference was in the second I was a little bit late in getting to the ball."



SPORTS CITY FOR Irbid: A meeting was held in Irbid to review a project for the construction of a sports city and amendments proposed by the Jordanian government for the project. The meeting was attended by ministers of Planning and Youth Abdullah 'Nasour and Hisham Al Sharari and China's ambassador to Jordan Huang Shixue whose country is undertaking the project under an agreement signed here last year.

The Jordanian side presented amendments for the project's design which included among other things, the establishment of a football field, the most popular sport in the country.

At the meeting which was attended by officials from both sides and Chinese specialists and engineers, a general review of the designs for the sports city was made. The project will include a stadium that can seat nearly 2,000 spectators, a multi-purpose training hall, a residential quarter for sportsmen, swimming pools, facilities for basketball, volleyball, table tennis and athletics and a gymnasium together with training courts, a restaurant, a canteen and car park.

Following the meeting Dr. 'Nasour said work on the project will begin as soon as final designs have been prepared.

Holmes sets sights on Marciano's record

LAS VEGAS (R) — Larry Holmes, unbeaten in 47 fights, said Sunday he planned to this year break Rocky Marciano's heavyweight record of 49 consecutive victories.

Holmes, who currently holds the International Boxing Federation heavyweight title, has signed to meet undisputed lightweight champion Michael Spinks on May 20. But the 35-year-old Holmes conceded that the fight might not come off.

"If Spinks isn't ready, I'll fight someone else," Holmes told Reuters. "Maybe he'll be number 49 or 50."

Promoter Butch Lewis, who had hoped to promote the fight with ringside events, a Florida-based promotional firm, said last week that Spinks would not be

ready to fight until June or July.

As a result, the National Broadcasting Company, which wants to televise the fight on May 20, has begun negotiations with several other fighters as possible opponents for Holmes. They include Frank Bruno of Britain and Americans Carl ('The Truth') Williams, Jeff Sims and Tony Tucker.

Of the four, only Tucker, unbeaten in 27 fights, with 24 knockouts, is ranked in the top 10.

However, Holmes said he would refuse to meet Tucker. "Tucker is managed by Cedric Kushner (a South African who now lives in New York) and I don't want any money from my fights going to South Africa," he said.

Kushner, informed of Holmes' comments, said: "That proves that Larry Holmes is an idiot or is afraid of Tucker."

Both before and after knocking out David Bey in the 10th round of his last fight on March 15, Holmes said he would be willing to meet Spinks for between 3 and 4 million dollars. However, Holmes has said that he has agreed to fight the unbeaten Spinks for between 2.5 and 3 million dollars.

"I'm definitely going for Marciano's record," said Holmes, who is here for his middleweight title fight between Marvin Hagler and Thomas Hearns. "After the May fight, I'll go for number 49 in August and then 50 in November, and that will be it."

Holmes said he hoped to make his farewell ring appearance in either his hometown of Easton, Pennsylvania, or in nearby Scranton, where he made his pro debut 13 years ago.

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JNOC appoints committee's posts

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Youth Hani Al Sharari, president of the Jordanian National Olympic Committee (JNOC) has presided over a committee's meeting during which several posts within the JNOC staff were elected.

Dr. Muaffaq Al Fawwaz, Dr. Mohammad Mamser and Mr. Sultan Al Adwan were nominated as JNOC vice-presidents while Isma'il Al Dajani was elected as treasurer and Awwad Haddad as assistant to the JNOC general secretary.

During the meeting, the minister and the participants elected an executive council for the committee: Mr. Sultan Al Adwan,

Major General Hilmi Abdul Hadi, Brigadier Nasouh Muhayyeddin, Mr. Mohammad Hamdan, Tayseer Arafa and Mrs. Rabha Nasser.

They also formed several sub-committees among which are the technical, the national teams headed by Mr. Seif Al Deen Murad, the financial and planning headed by Mr. Jalal Boustani, medical headed by Dr. Muaffaq Al Fawwaz, the legal sub-committee headed by Dr. Mohammad Mamser in addition to the cultural, information and public relations sub-committee presided over by Mr. Issam Aridah.

Djibouti's Ahmed wins 1st World Cup marathon

HIROSHIMA, Japan (R) — Salah Ahmed of Djibouti, putting up a strong showing in the last four miles, won the first World Cup men's marathon in a fast time of two hours eight minutes nine seconds here Sunday.

The 29-year-old Ahmed, who moved into the top group from the 25-km (15-mile) point, beat Japan's Takeyuki Nakayama by about 30 yards at the finish line.

Nakayama placed second in 2:08:15 and Djama Robleh of Djibouti, Ahmed's chief competitor at home, finished third in 2:08:26.

"I had the confidence of winning when I caught up with Nakayama at the 35-km (21-mile) point," Ahmed, who won his second marathon race said.

Ahmed, who won the Paris marathon last year, outran the Japanese in the last 600 metres after running shoulder-to-

shoulder with Nakayama, from the 38.5-km point.

Pre-race favourite Juma Ikangaa of Tanzania weakened at the last nine miles and finished 10th in 2:11:06.

The race started at a fast pace and for a long time Briton Steve Jones' world best of 2:08:05 looked in danger.

The athletes were aided by cool conditions and a light drizzle in contrast with the warm weather suffered by competitors in Saturday's women's marathon.

Djibouti won the three-man team competition, followed by Japan and Ethiopia.

Djibouti's team of Ahmed, Robleh and Charmarke Abdillahi totalled six hours 27 minutes eight seconds.

Japan finished second with 6:31:43, and Ethiopia came third in 6:32:46.

Lawson dominates Imola race

IMOLA, Italy (R) — World 500cc motor cycling champion Eddie Lawson of the United States dominated the annual 200-miles race at Imola Autodrome Sunday.

Lawson never faltered after taking the lead after three laps of the first stage and completed the 32 laps, in two stages, in a combined time of two hours, four minutes and 57.30 seconds.

"Everything was right for me today — the bike, the track and myself," said Lawson. "But the World Championship is something else."

His time was more than 45 seconds faster than second-placed American Randy Mamola who finished in 2:05:43.76.

Takazami Katayama of Japan rode steadily in both stages to finish overall third with a time of 2:07:31.71.

French rider Raymond Roche, who led for the first three laps of the first stage, later broke the chain of his Yamaha while challenging Mamola for second place.

But he roared back in the second stage, setting the day's fastest individual lap time of one minute 51.71 seconds and crossing the line only one metre behind Mamola.

Italian Franco Uncini, due to start fifth on the grid, had to withdraw after wrecking his Suzuki in practice.

Canadian beats 100m champion Smith

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad (R) — World 100 metres record-holder Calvin Smith of the United States was beaten into second place by Canadian Ben Johnson in a 100-metre race at the international track and field classic here Sunday night.

Johnson clocked 10.26 seconds for a three-second lead on Smith.

Fellow Canadian Desai Williams was third in 10.34 seconds.

Trinidad and Tobago's 400-metres champion Mike Paul was defeated for the first time on home soil in his pet event and had to settle for third place with American Ray Armstead taking the race, followed by Mark Rowe, also of the United States.

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Eng. Mohammad S. Kellani
President
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TIME EUROPE

The Americans are coming: (Cover story on the travel boom touched off by the strong dollar)

Selling Britain (Thatcher's Asian swing)
America's merger mania (Why business mergers are good — and bad)
Big Catch (Mexican arrest reputed drug king)
How to catch a liar (New book says liars betray their emotions in their faces)

Dundee predicts Hagler to win

LAS VEGAS (R) — Angelo Dundee, former trainer to Muhammad Ali and Sugar Ray Leonard and one of the most respected men in the business, is tipping the fearsome Hagler to survive the assault of "Hit-Man" Hearns and retain his titles in the scheduled 12-round bout billed simply as "the fight".

Dundee, who was in Sugar Ray Leonard's corner when he inflicted Hearns' only defeat — a 14th round knockout in 1981 — believes the challenger will gain little benefit from his height advantage.

And he said: "I think Hearns is going to have a lot of trouble because of Hagler's southpaw style."

"Hearns' punching power is also not going to be as effective because he's going to be hitting a natural middleweight, not a welterweight or a junior-middleweight," Dundee told Reuters.

"And, remember, in his two fights with middleweights, Ernie Singletary and Murray Surherland, Hearns had to go the distance and didn't look good — and they're not much."

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Selfies 150

World news

Peru's Social Democrats lead in elections, poll says

LIMA (R) — Peru's Social Democrat Party was clearly leading in Sunday's presidential election, but lacked an absolute majority needed to avoid a runoff, according to a television projection broadcast Monday.

Panamericana Television said its final projection gave Alan Garcia's American Popular Revolutionary Alliance (APRA) 48 per cent of the vote, followed by 23.5 per cent for the United Left (IU) of Lima Mayor Alfonso Barrientos.

The forecast was based on a nationwide sampling of about 13 per cent of the votes cast, according to Panamericana News Director Julio Esmereydo.

Panamericana, which is Peru's biggest private network, projected that the rightist Democratic Convergence Party would capture 13.5 per cent of the vote while the outgoing government's Popular Action (AP) Party was in fourth

place with five per cent. Voting was orderly, despite guerrilla dynamite attacks on at least two polling stations in the capital during the day.

Crowds of voters fled in panic after rebels hurled the explosive from passing cars, but no one was injured, police said.

The official news agency Andina said guerrillas also bombed three other polling stations, an AP party district office, a petrol station and two sections of a railway in the capital. Police could not immediately confirm the report.

Maoist Sendero Luminoso (shining path) guerrillas, whose five-year anti-government insurgency has cost 6,000 lives, had threatened to disrupt the vote, denouncing it as a farce designed to keep the rich in power.

Thousands of Indian peasants from villages in rebel-controlled areas of the high andes camped out overnight under military guard in town centres to take part in the mandatory vote.

The government mobilised 85,000 troops and 20,000 police and sent tanks into slum areas to ensure the polls went well.

The campaign was dominated by the economic crisis, with its record 129 per cent inflation which has eroded workers' buying power to 1950s levels and left two-thirds of the workforce without a full-time job.

Pollsters blamed falling living standards for the sharp drop in AP's vote from a 1980 peak of 45 per cent when President Fernando Belaunde Terry was elected after 12 years of military rule.



MURPHY CONCLUDES VISIT — United States Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy (second right) is seen off at the airport Monday by Foreign Ministry Secretary-General

Salih Zoubi (second left) and the American ambassador to Jordan (right) at the end of his visit to Jordan. (Petra photo)

'Islamic Jihad' claims Madrid blast

MADRID (R) — The victims of the Madrid restaurant bomb, which killed 18 Spaniards, were buried as the authorities probed claims that a shadowy Islamic group carried out the attack.

The funerals were packed with weeping relatives shaken by the attack on Friday, Spain's worst since the 1936-39 civil war.

Anxious family members paced the halls of Madrid hospitals where 31 of the 82 wounded were still undergoing treatment.

Several guerrilla groups including Basque ETA separatists said they carried out the attack on the El Descanso restaurant.

Interior Minister Jose Barrionuevo said the most credible claim was made by Islamic Jihad (holy struggle), a staunchly anti-American Shi'ite group based in Beirut.

"It could only have been a terrorist act," he said.

Shuttle officials ponder ways to repair satellite

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (R) — U.S. space officials Monday considered ways of fixing a disabled satellite after deciding not to send a shuttle astronaut out to activate it.

Before the crew of the shuttle Discovery went to sleep Sunday night they were told that it had been decided not to try to repair the satellite during a spacewalk.

"The plan is not to do the EVA (extravehicular activity) ... in close proximity to the satellite," mission control told the seven crew members after officials had grappled with the problem for almost two days.

Mission officials said, however, there was still a possibility that the shuttle's 50-foot robot arm might be used to try to trip a switch on the satellite.

"Bumping it (satellite) with the arm would not be catastrophic," Flight Director Randy Stone told a press conference. "Bumping it with an EVA crewman has that potential."

Stone said procedures were still being studied to determine how the arm could best be used.

The flight director said the most likely approach would be to attach some sort of tool to the end of the arm and then try to flip the switch on the satellite, which failed to activate after it was released from Discovery on Saturday.

Stone said experts at the Johnson Space Centre in Texas had not yet decided what kind of tool to attach to the arm. He said one candidate was a "back scratcher" type rod which is used inside the shuttle to throw some hard-to-reach switches.

Stone said officials had decided against putting a man on the arm because the spinning satellite could knock him off or tear his space suit.

He also said that one of the two potential spacewalkers, Jeffrey Hoffman, was also a key person in flying the shuttle close to the satellite and he couldn't do that and also do a spacewalk.

He said that while no formal decision would be made until later, the most likely scenario would be for Hoffman and David Griggs to go into the shuttle's open cargo bay Tuesday and attach a tool to the arm.

Then on Wednesday the crew would fly the shuttle close to the satellite and try to trip the switch, which should activate a series of pre-programmed operations, including the firing of its powerful booster rocket.

However, if the satellite does come alive, the shuttle would have plenty of time, 45 minutes, to once again fly a safe distance away, as is the normal procedure in deploying satellites.

There was also the possibility that officials would decide not to try to activate the satellite. In that event, the shuttle would be allowed to fly up close so the crew could inspect the craft and take pictures of it.

In any event, officials said, the shuttle will not return to earth until Thursday at the earliest, which would mean a one-day extension of its planned mission.

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Protests flare after 8 killed in S. Africa

PORT ELIZABETH, South Africa (R) — Police fired tear gas and rubber bullets overnight to disperse black crowds after at least eight people had died in weekend unrest in South Africa.

Police headquarters in Pretoria said two soldiers helping riot police and one policeman were hurt in the overnight riots in the eastern Cape and at Kimberley in the northern Cape.

A man who was injured when a policeman fired on a crowd petrol bombing his home was under guard in hospital Monday.

Rioting erupted over the weekend in three of the nation's four provinces. The main violence was in the eastern Cape where eight people were killed as police fired on rioters with pistols, shotguns, rubber bullets and teargas.

Hundreds of troops are supporting police in an attempt to quell the violence, much of it directed against black policemen and local councillors regarded as collaborators with the white minority government.

Adriaan Vlok, deputy minister of law and order and of defence, said in a television interview broadcast Sunday night that the unrest was obstructing government attempts to negotiate with moderate blacks.

"We are determined to restore law and order and maintain it afterwards," he said.

On Saturday tens of thousands of blacks thronged a soccer stadium in a black township near Uitenhage in the eastern Cape to mourn 27 victims of the unrest, including 19 blacks shot dead by police in a single incident last month.

Nobel Peace Prize winner Desmond Tutu, Anglican Bishop of Johannesburg, who spoke at the funeral, condemned both the government and the brutal methods of rioters who have hacked and burnt to death blacks whom they regard as traitors.

Well over 100 blacks have died in unrest this year centred on the eastern Cape, where economic recession has hit the local motor industry and exacerbated black dissatisfaction with white rule.

Last year about 200 died as the riots swept across the country. Only Natal, a province in the east of the country where Zulu chief Gatsha Buthelezi has a strong influence on blacks, has remained relatively calm.

In Cape Town Monday, the government was expected to announce that it will repeal apartheid laws banning sex and marriage between whites and non-whites.

Police Monday lifted a night-curfew imposed in the eastern province town of Akkarapathu after clashes between Muslims and Tamils in which five people were killed and more than 50 houses were set ablaze.

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COLUMN

Banks stage strike to protest robberies

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanese banks staged a one-day strike Monday to protest against a recent wave of bank robberies in the Lebanese capital. Banks in Christian east Beirut and mostly Muslim west Beirut shut to customers, but some continued to carry out internal work, bank officials said.

Last Monday alone, unidentified gunmen netted a total of about 600,000 Lebanese pounds (\$33,000) from banks or bank transport vehicles in west Beirut, security sources said. The same day, gunmen robbed 12.5 kilograms of gold from the hall-marking unit at the Ministry of Economy. On Tuesday, gunmen robbed another west Beirut bank of some 200,000 Lebanese pounds (\$11,000).

Clint Eastwood tops youth hero poll

WASHINGTON (R) — Tough-guy actor Clint Eastwood and comedian Eddie Murphy have outpolled President Reagan in a survey of young Americans aimed at finding out whom they consider to be a hero. The poll by the Roper Organisation, commissioned by the magazine U.S. News and World Report, asked people between the ages of 18 and 24 who they found most inspiring and wanted to emulate in some way.

Eastwood was favoured by 30 per cent of the participants, Murphy 24 per cent and Reagan 15 per cent. He was followed by actress Jane Fonda, actress Sally Field, film director Steven Spielberg, Pope John Paul, Mother Teresa and pop singers Michael Jackson and Tina Turner. In a breakdown among sexes, Eastwood topped the men's poll and Fonda the women's.

Demolition men do a thorough job on the wrong house

SYDNEY (R) — Australian authorities Monday promised compensation to Sydney journalist David Osborne whose house was gutted by a demolition team who went to the wrong address. The contractor was told to go to 58, Glebe Point Road but instead went to Glebe Street, New South Wales Housing Minister Frank Walker Monday told Osborne amid the rubble of his recently-bought home. Osborne Sunday found every floor in the house removed along with an antique fireplace and material he was using to renovate the house. He was due to move in this week.

Pope beatifies German, Italian nuns

VATICAN CITY (R) — Pope John Paul has beatified two 19th Century nuns, a German and an Italian, who founded religious orders. The beatifications, the last step before sainthood in the Roman Catholic Church, were proclaimed during a mass the Pope celebrated before thousands of people in St. Peter's Square.

The Italian nun was Caterina Troiani, founder of the Franciscan missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. She was born near Rome in 1813 and worked in Egypt. The German nun was Pauline Von Mallinckrodt. Born in Minden in 1817 of a Protestant father and Catholic mother, she founded the Institute of the Sisters of Christian Charity to help the sick and poor.

55 pandas starve since 1983

PEKING (AP) — Fifty-five giant pandas have starved to death in south west China since 1983 because of a bamboo famine, and prospects for the endangered species are worse this year because of heavy snow, the government said Monday. The latest toll includes four pandas found dead since January and two that died despite emergency treatment, the official press agency Xinhua said. It quoted the Vice Minister of Forestry, Dong Zhiyong, as blaming the deaths of "starvation and diseases related to malnutrition" despite a massive rescue effort. The crisis began in 1983 when the arrow bamboo, the pandas' favourite food, began to wither because of a rare flowering cycle. Xinhua said nearly half the 500,000 hectares (2.3 million acres) of arrow bamboo forests have died and the rest are expected to die in the next few years, aggravating the threat to China's estimated 1,000 giant pandas.

Greek parties prepare for early polls

ATHENS (R) — Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu has called a full cabinet meeting for Wednesday when he is expected to announce final plans for a general election in June.

Political commentators said the election date, which would be formally announced by President Christos Sartzatakis, would probably be June 2 or June 9.

The opposition conservatives pressed Mr. Papandreu to call a national ballot earlier this month after Mr. Sartzatakis's own recent election sparked off a constitutional crisis.

The Socialist government's four-year term would otherwise expire in October.

The conservative New Dem-

ocrats have refused to recognise Mr. Sartzatakis as president, claiming the country's 300-member parliament was the victim of politically unethical rules used to secure the necessary three-fifths majority in the vote on March 29.

In the run-up to an election New Democracy leader Constantine Mitsotakis was expected to try to capitalise on concern that the new president will allow Mr. Papandreu to pursue his radical policies unfettered.

Thought Mr. Sartzatakis has officially said he would consider Mr. Papandreu's request for an early election, most Greeks believe his approval is a foregone conclusion.

Swedish heart recipient in good state

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — The first non-American recipient of a permanent artificial heart remained in good condition, Stockholm's Karolinska Hospital announced Monday.

The statement also said that tests with a portable, shoulder-slung air compressor, powering the artificial heart, will continue. Doctors reported Sunday at a news conference that their patient

had told jokes, eaten normal food and that he stood up and walked Saturday for the first time since they installed the plastic and steel Jarvik-7 pump in his chest on April 7.

Under the existing electoral law approved by the present parliament, any party with a lead of at least one per cent can form a government.

In last June's elections for the European Parliament, the Socialists were about three per cent ahead of the conservatives, but New Democracy claims to have increased its strength and now to be the first party.

The controversy over Mr. Sartzatakis's election capped opposition accusations that the Papandreu government was aiming to alter the constitution, making it easier for the prime minister to run the country by enabling him to bypass the president.

Several guerrilla groups including Basque ETA separatists said they carried out the attack on the El Descanso restaurant.

Interior Minister Jose Barrionuevo said the most credible claim was made by Islamic Jihad (holy struggle), a staunchly anti-American Shi'ite group based in Beirut.

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However, if the satellite does come alive, the shuttle would have plenty of time, 45 minutes, to once again fly a safe distance away, as is the normal procedure in deploying satellites.

There was also the possibility that officials would decide not to try to activate the satellite. In that event, the shuttle would be allowed to fly up close so the crew could inspect the craft and take pictures of it.

In any event, officials said, the shuttle will not return to earth until Thursday at the earliest, which would mean a one-day extension of its planned mission.

It would stay up until Friday if an attempt were made to activate the communications satellite, which was built by the Hughes Aircraft Company for the U.S. military.

Stone said officials had decided against putting a man on the arm because the spinning satellite could knock him off or tear his space suit.

He also said that one of the two potential spacewalkers, Jeffrey Hoffman, was also a key person in flying the shuttle close to the satellite and he couldn't do that and also do a spacewalk.

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